

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A locking system, comprising:
 - 5 a plate having a first projection and a second projection, wherein at least a portion of said first projection runs at least substantially along a vertical axis of said plate, said plate also including a surface area for receiving a decorative image; and
 - a base having a first slot and a second slot, wherein said first
 - 10 slot and said second slot run at least substantially along horizontal axes of said base;
 - wherein said first slot detachably receives said first projection when said plate is in a first position and said second slot detachably receives said second projection as said plate is turned to a second position, wherein
 - 15 said first slot locks said first projection and said second slot locks said second projection when said plate is in said second position such that said plate is detachably coupled to said base.
2. The system according to claim 1, wherein said second slot
- 20 unlocks said second projection as said plate is turned from said second position to said first position.

3. The system according to claim 2, wherein said first slot unlocks said first projection when said plate is in said first position such that said plate is removable from said base.

5 4. The system according to claim 1, wherein said first projection has a center portion that is at least substantially circular and at least one wing that is attached to and projects away from said center portion.

5. The system according to claim 4, wherein said first slot includes
10 at least one arc that engages said center portion of said first projection and at least one extension that receives said wings of said first projection.

6. The system according to claim 5, wherein said base comprises a first element and a second element, wherein said first element is affixed to
15 said second element, wherein said first element has a top surface and a bottom surface and said bottom surface engages said wings as said plate is turned to and stops at said second position.

7. The system according to claim 1, wherein said second
20 projection includes a neck and a head, wherein said neck is attached to said plate and said head is attached to said neck.

8. The system according to claim 7, wherein said second slot includes a pair of opposing projections, each said projection having an arc,

wherein said arcs snap lock said neck of said second projection when said plate is in said second position.

9. The system according to claim 1, wherein said base further
5 comprises a speaker and a handle, wherein a user positions said speaker in an ear of the user and the user grasps the handle when the user wishes to insert said speaker in the user's ear and when the user wishes to remove said speaker from the user's ear.

10 10. The system according to claim 2, wherein said plate further comprises a handle, wherein a user grasps and turns said handle when the user wishes to turn said plate from said first position to said second position and from said second position to said first position.

11. A locking mechanism, comprising:
- a plate having a first projection and a second projection; and
 - a base having a first slot and a second slot, wherein said first
- 5 slot and said second slot detachably lock said first projection and said second projection to permit said plate to detachably couple said base;
- wherein said plate includes a surface area for receiving a decorative image;
 - wherein a user selectively detachably couples said plate to said
- 10 base by turning said plate from a first position to a second position and from said second position to said first position.

12. A plate for an audio device, comprising:
a first surface area;
a second surface area for receiving a decorative image;
5 a first projection; and
a second projection, said first and second projections being
disposed on said first surface area;
wherein said first and second projections detachably engage a
first slot and a second slot of a base of the audio device, wherein said plate
10 couples to the base when said first and second projections engage the first
and second slots and said plate decouples from the base when said first and
second projections disengage the first and second slots of the base.

13. The plate according to claim 12, wherein said first and second
15 projections of said plate disengage the first and second slots of the base
when said plate is turned to a first position and wherein said first and second
projections engage the first and second slots when said plate is turned to a
second position.

14. A base of an audio device, comprising:
a first element having a first slot and a second slot; and
a second element having a speaker, wherein said first element
5 is attached to said second element;

wherein said first and second slots detachably engage first and
second projections of a plate of the audio device, wherein said base couples
to the plate when said first and second slots engage the first and second
10 projections and said base decouples from the plate when said first and
second slots disengage the first and second projections of the plate.

15. The base according to claim 14, wherein said first and second
slots of said base disengage the first and second projections of the plate
15 when the plate is turned to a first position and wherein said first and second
slots engage the first and second projections when the plate is turned to a
second position.

16. A method of detachably securing a plate to a base of an audio device, comprising the steps of:

- inserting a first projection of the plate into a first slot of the base,
5 wherein the plate is in a first position;
turning the plate towards a second position, wherein the first slot engages the first projection;
guiding a second projection of the plate into a second slot during said turning the plate step; and
10 engaging the second slot with the second projection, wherein the plate is in the second position.

17. The method according to claim 16, further comprising the steps of:

- 15 disengaging the second projection from the second slot;
turning the plate towards the first position; and
when the plate reaches the first position, removing the first projection from the first slot.

- 20 18. The method according to claim 17, wherein the plate has a handle and the base has a handle and the handle of the plate is at approximately a ninety degree angle with respect to the handle of the base when the plate is in the first position.

19. The method according to claim 17, wherein the plate has a handle and the base has a handle and the handle of the plate is at least substantially parallel with the handle of the base when the plate is in the second position.